

HOUSE BILL 339

P1

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By: **Delegates Frush, Busch, Alston, Anderson, Barkley, Barnes, Barve, Braveboy, Carr, Frick, Gaines, Gilchrist, Glenn, Griffith, Gutierrez, Hubbard, Hucker, Ivey, Kipke, Lee, Morhaim, Niemann, Pena-Melnyk, Proctor, B. Robinson, Ross, Rudolph, Summers, Tarrant, V. Turner, Valderrama, Valentino-Smith, Waldstreicher, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2011

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force on the Establishment of a Statewide Spay/Neuter Fund**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force on the Establishment of a Statewide
4 Spay/Neuter Fund; specifying the membership, chair, and staff of the Task
5 Force; specifying that a member of the Task Force may not receive
6 compensation, but may receive reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring
7 the Task Force to review certain spay/neuter programs, develop a certain
8 spay/neuter program, and make certain recommendations; requiring the Task
9 Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and certain
10 committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for
11 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force on the
12 Establishment of a Statewide Spay/Neuter Fund.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That:

15 (a) There is a Task Force on the Establishment of a Statewide Spay/Neuter
16 Fund.

17 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

18 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
19 President of the Senate;

20 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
21 of the House;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) the Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee; and

2 (4) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

3 (i) one representative of the Maryland Association of Counties;

4 (ii) one representative of the Humane Society of the United
5 States;

6 (iii) one representative of the Maryland Veterinary Medical
7 Association;

8 (iv) one representative of Maryland Votes for Animals;

9 (v) one representative of the Howard County Animal Advocates;

10 (vi) one representative of the Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care
11 Shelter;

12 (vii) one representative of the Professional Animal Workers of
13 Maryland, Inc.;

14 (viii) one representative of the Maryland SPCA; and

15 (ix) two representatives of other private or public organizations
16 with experience and interest in spay/neuter programs.

17 (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates
18 jointly shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

19 (d) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Task
20 Force.

21 (e) A member of the Task Force:

22 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

23 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
24 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

25 (f) The Task Force shall:

26 (1) collect and review data on the number of spay/neuter services
27 performed each year in the State and the unmet need for the services;

28 (2) review ongoing successful local spay/neuter programs in the State;

1 (3) review spay/neuter programs in other states and identify best
2 practices;

3 (4) review and make recommendations regarding the most appropriate
4 funding mechanism for a spay/neuter fund; and

5 (5) make recommendations regarding the establishment of a
6 spay/neuter fund that best meets the needs of the State.

7 (g) On or before January 1, 2012, the Task Force shall report its findings and
8 legislative recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the
9 State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
10 Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 July 1, 2011. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30,
13 2012, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
14 abrogated and of no further force and effect.